

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed November 10, 2004, Applicants amended claims 1 and 21 and added new claims 25-32. Support for the amendments to the claims is provided in the application as originally filed at, for example, page 6, lines 15-17 and claims 1, 9, 11 and 12 as originally filed.

Claims 1-5, 21, 22 and 25-32 are presented for examination.

The Examiner rejected the previously pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Door in view of JP '673 or Watanabe.

As amended, the pending claims cover compositions that compose a fuel cell anode. The compositions include: a first material resistant to oxidation up to about 3.0 Volts v. SHE; a catalyst; and an additional material including a copolymer of tetrafluoroethylene and hexafluoropropylene. The first material and the catalyst form a catalyst portion of the composition, and between about 75-95 weight percent of the composition is comprised of the catalyst portion with the balance being the additional (third) material.

Door does not disclose or suggest such compositions. In particular, Door does not disclose or suggest a composition that composes a fuel cell anode and includes the three components required by the claims, let alone in the particular proportions required by the claims.

Neither JP '673 nor Watanabe cure Door's infirmities because, like Door, neither of these references disclose or suggest a composition that composes a fuel cell anode and that includes the three components required by the claims.

Neither Door, JP '673 nor Watanabe, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the compositions covered by the claims. There is no suggestion to combine these references to provide such compositions. Moreover, even if the references were combined, the result would not be the compositions covered by the claims. Applicants therefore request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance, which action is requested.


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Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/31/05



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